



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I, Bernhard Ernst REICHERT BSc, PhD,

translator to RWS Group plc, of Europa House, Marsham Way, Gerrards Cross
Buckinghamshire, England declare;

1. That I am a resident of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
2. That I am well acquainted with the German and English languages.
3. That the attached is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true translation into the English language of the accompanying copy of the specification filed with the application for a patent in Germany on 23 December 2000 under the number 100 65 177.1 and the official certificate attached hereto.
4. That I believe that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent application in the United States of America or any patent issuing thereon.

For and on behalf of RWS Group plc

The 18th day of February 2004



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

[Eagle crest]

**Priority Certificate
for the filing of a Patent Application**

File Reference: 100 65 177.1

Filing date: 23 December 2000

Applicant/Proprietor: Degussa AG, 40474 Düsseldorf/DE

Title: Multilayer composite based on polyamide/polyolefin

IPC: B 32 B 27/34

The attached documents are a correct and accurate reproduction of the original submission for this Application.

Munich, 21 January 2004

German Patent and Trademark Office

The President

pp

[Seal of the German Patent
and Trademark Office]

[signature]

Klostermeyer



O.Z. 5704

- 1 -

Multilayer composite based on polyamide/polyolefin

The invention relates to a multilayer composite in which a polyamide layer and a polyolefin layer are joined to one another by means of a specific bonding agent.

Multilayer composites comprising a polyamide layer and a polyolefin layer are known per se. Thus, DE-A 37 15 251 describes a two-layer tube consisting of a polyamide layer and a polyolefin layer for conveying an alcoholic medium. To achieve any adhesion at all between the layers, the polyolefin contains groups derived from maleic acid.

DE-C 40 00 434 describes a multilayer coolant line which, in one embodiment, comprises an outer polyamide layer, an inner polyolefin layer and an intermediate bonding layer of a polyolefin bearing functional groups.

Such composites have firm adhesion between the layers after their production. However, it has been found that adhesion between the layers of functionalized polyolefin and polyamide becomes lower and lower on prolonged contact with aqueous liquids or alcohol-containing fuel, particularly at elevated temperatures, and finally drops to values which are no longer acceptable in practice; the reasons for this are considered to be alcoholysis or hydrolysis reactions.

A different concept is presented in US 3 561 493. There, a mixture of polyamide and polyethylene is recommended as bonding agent between a polyamide layer and a polyolefin layer. However, attempts to reproduce this disclosure show that, depending on which polymer forms the coherent phase in the mixture, only adhesion

O.Z. 5704

- 2 -

either to the polyamide layer or to the polyethylene layer is obtained, but never both at the same time.

Finally, EP Application No. 00 10 9633.8 (intended
5 Publication Number 1 065 048), which is not a prior publication, describes a multilayer composite comprising a bonding agent which comprises a polyamine-polyamide copolymer. A polyolefin layer or the presence of a polyolefin in the bonding agent is not disclosed
10 there.

It is an object of the present invention to produce a multilayer composite comprising a polyamide layer and a polyolefin layer joined by means of a bonding layer
15 which does not consist of a functionalized polyolefin. A further object is to produce such a multilayer composite in which the adhesion between layers remains largely intact even on prolonged contact with alcohol-containing or aqueous media at elevated temperatures. A
20 further object is to firmly join a polyamide layer and a layer which has the features of a polyolefin molding composition and therefore may make an additional polyolefin layer unnecessary.

25 These objects are achieved by a multilayer composite which comprises the following layers bound directly to one another:

- I. a layer I of a polyamide molding composition;
- 30 II. a layer II of a bonding agent comprising at least 50% by weight, preferably at least 70% by weight and particularly preferably at least 85% by weight, of a mixture of
 - a) from 30 to 70 parts by volume of polyamide,
35 preferably from 40 to 60 parts by volume, and
 - b) from 70 to 30 parts by volume of polyolefin, preferably from 60 to 40 parts by volume,

O.Z. 5704

- 3 -

where the sum of the parts by volume is 100 and in addition at least some of the polyamide is present either in the form of a polyamide-polyolefin graft copolymer or as a highly branched polyamine-polyamide copolymer;

III. if desired a layer III of a polyolefin molding composition.

Possible polyamides for the layer I or the bonding agent are first and foremost aliphatic homopolycondensates and copolycondensates, for example PA 46, PA 66, PA 68, PA 612, PA 88, PA 810, PA 1010, PA 1012, PA 1212, PA 6, PA 7, PA 8, PA 9, PA 10, PA 11 and PA 12. (The designation of the polyamides corresponds to the international standard, where the first digit(s) indicates the number of carbon atoms in the starting diamine and the last digit(s) indicates the number of carbon atoms of the dicarboxylic acid. If only one number is given, this means that the polyamide has been prepared from an α,ω -aminocarboxylic acid or from the lactam derived therefrom; for further information, reference may be made to H. Domininghaus, Die Kunststoffe und ihre Eigenschaften, pages 272 ff., VDI-Verlag, 1976.)

If copolyamides are used, they can comprise, for example, adipic acid, sebacic acid, suberic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid, etc., as coacid and bis(4-aminocyclohexyl)methane, trimethylhexamethylenediamine, hexamethylenediamine or the like as codiamine. Lactams such as caprolactam or laurolactam or aminocarboxylic acids such as ω -aminoundecanoic acid can likewise be incorporated as cocomponents.

The preparation of these polyamides is known (e.g. D.B. Jacobs, J. Zimmermann, Polymerization Processes,

O.Z. 5704

- 4 -

pp. 424-467, Interscience Publishers, New York, 1977;
DE-B 21 52 194).

- Further suitable polyamides are mixed
5 aliphatic/aromatic polycondensates as are described,
for example, in US-A 2 071 250, 2 071 251, 2 130 523,
2 130 948, 2 241 322, 2 312 966, 2 512 606 and
3 393 210 and also in Kirk-Othmer, Encyclopedia of
10 Chemical Technology, 3rd edition, Vol. 18, pages
328 ff. and 435 ff., Wiley & Sons, 1982. Other suitable
polyamides are poly(ether ester amides) or poly(ether
amides); such products are described, for example, in
DE-A 25 23 991, 27 12 987 and 30 06 961.
- 15 The polyamide molding composition can comprise either
one of these polyamides or a mixture of a plurality of
them. Up to 40% by weight of other thermoplastics can
also be present, as long as they do not interfere with
the bonding capability. Particular examples of such
20 further thermoplastics are impact-toughening rubbers
such as ethylene-propylene or ethylene-propylene-diene
copolymers (EP-A-0 295 076), polypentenylene,
polyoctenylene, random or block copolymers of
alkenylaromatic compounds with aliphatic olefins or
25 dienes (EP-A-0 261 748) or core/shell rubbers having a
tough elastic core of (meth)acrylate, butadiene or
styrene-butadiene rubber having a glass transition
temperature T_g of $< -10^\circ\text{C}$, where the core may be
crosslinked and the shell may be made up of styrene
30 and/or methyl methacrylate and/or further unsaturated
monomers (DE-A 21 44 528, 37 28 685).

The polyolefin of layer III or of the bonding agent is,
for example, polyethylene or polypropylene. It is in
35 principle possible to use any commercial type. Thus,
for example, possible polyolefins are: linear
polyethylene of high, intermediate or low density,
LDPE, isotactic or atactic homopolypropylene, random

O.Z. 5704

- 5 -

copolymers of propene with ethene and/or 1-butene, ethylene-propylene block copolymers and the like. The polyolefin can further comprise an impact-toughening component such as EPM or EPDM rubber or SEBS.

5 Furthermore, the customary auxiliaries and additives may also be present. The polyolefin can be prepared by any known process, for example by the Ziegler-Natta process, by the Phillips process, by means of metallocenes or by a free-radical process.

10

The molding composition of layer III can be crosslinked as described in the prior art so as to achieve an improvement in the mechanical properties, e.g. the cold impact toughness, the heat distortion resistance or the
15 creep behavior, or in the permeability. Crosslinking is carried out, for example, by radiation crosslinking or by means of moisture crosslinking of polyolefin molding compositions containing silane groups.

20 The bonding agent of layer II may further comprise, in addition to the mixture of polyamide and polyolefin, other polymers or the customary auxiliaries and additives, as long as these do not significantly impair the bonding action.

25

In the mixture of polyamide and polyolefin, at least part of the constituents is present in the form of a polyamide-polyolefin graft copolymer. The lower limit of this is determined by the effect according to the
30 invention being still just achieved. It can easily be determined by simple experiments.

Polyamide-polyolefin graft copolymers can be formed by various methods, for example by

35

- reaction of suitable functional groups of the polyamide, for instance the amino or carboxyl end groups of the polyamide, with functional groups of

O.Z. 5704

- 6 -

- the polyolefin either directly or with the aid of a suitable coupling reagent. Suitable functional groups are, for example, acid anhydride groups, N-acyllactam groups, carboxyl groups, epoxide groups, oxazoline groups, trialkoxysilane groups or hydroxyl groups. The functional groups can be introduced either by copolymerization of a suitable monomer together with the olefin or by a grafting reaction. In the grafting reaction, a preformed polyolefin is reacted in a known manner with an unsaturated, functional monomer and advantageously a free-radical donor at elevated temperature;
- radiation crosslinking of a polyamide/polyolefin mixture by means of β -rays, X-rays or γ -rays;
 - reaction of a polyamide/polyolefin mixture, preferably in the melt under shear, with a free-radical donor.
- Suitable free-radical donors are preferably compounds having a labile C-C, N-N or O-O bond, particularly preferably peroxides, or else azo compounds.

In a first preferred embodiment of the present invention, the base molding composition of the bonding agent is prepared by reacting

- a) from 30 to 70 parts by volume of polyamide with
- b1) from 0.1 to 70 parts by volume of a polyolefin containing functional groups, and
- b2) from 69.9 to 0 parts by volume of an unfunctionalized polyolefin,

for example in the melt under shear.

The polyolefins of the components b1) and b2) can be identical or different. For example, an ethylene-propylene rubber functionalized with maleic anhydride

O.Z. 5704

- 7 -

can be used as component b1) and an unfunctionalized isotactic homopolypropylene can be used as component b2).

5 In a second preferred embodiment, the base molding composition of the bonding agent is prepared by reacting

- 10 a) from 30 to 70 parts by volume of polyamide with
b) from 70 to 30 parts by volume of polyolefin and
also

from 0.05 to 10% by weight, preferably from 0.1 to 7% by weight and particularly preferably from 0.2 to 5% by weight, of a free-radical donor, based on the sum of
15 the components a) and b).

In a third preferred embodiment, the base molding composition of the bonding agent comprises a mixture of

- 20 a) from 30 to 70 parts by volume of a polyamine-polyamide copolymer prepared using the following monomers:

- 25 α) from 0.5 to 25% by weight, preferably from 1 to 20% by weight and particularly preferably from 1.5 to 16% by weight, based on the polyamine-polyamide copolymer, of a polyamine having at least 4, preferably at least 8 and particularly preferably at least 11, nitrogen atoms and a number average molecular weight M_n of at least
30 146 g/mol, preferably at least 500 g/mol and particularly preferably at least 800 g/mol, and
β) polyamide-forming monomers selected from among lactams, ω-aminocarboxylic acids and/or equimolar combinations of diamine and
35 dicarboxylic acid, and

- b) from 70 to 30 parts by volume of polyolefin.

O.Z. 5704

- 8 -

In a preferred embodiment, the amino group concentration of the polyamine-polyamide copolymer is in the range from 100 to 2500 mmol/kg.

5 As polyamine, it is possible to use, for example, substances from the following classes:

10 - polyvinylamines (Römpf Chemie Lexikon, 9th edition, Volume 6, page 4921, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart 1992);

- polyamines which are prepared from alternating polyketones (DE-A 196 54 058);

15 - dendrimers such as
 $((\text{H}_2\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_3)_2\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_3)_2-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{N}((\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{N}((\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}_2)_2)_2$
(DE-A-196 54 179) or
tris(2-aminoethyl)amine, N,N-bis(2-aminoethyl)-
20 N',N'-bis[2-[bis(2-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl]-1,2-ethanediamine,
3,15-bis(2-aminoethyl)-6,12-bis[2-[bis(2-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl]-9-[bis[2-bis(2-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl]amino]ethyl]-3,6,9,12,15-
25 pentaazaheptadecane-1,17-diamine (J.M. Warakowski, Chem. Mat. 1992, 4, 1000-1004);

30 - Linear polyethylenimines which can be prepared by polymerization of 4,5-dihydro-1,3-oxazoles and subsequent hydrolysis (Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie, Volume E20, pages 1482-1487, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1987);

35 - branched polyethylenimines which are obtainable by polymerization of aziridines (Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie, Volume E20, pages 1482-1487, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1987)

O.Z. 5704

- 9 -

and generally have the following amino group distribution:

from 25 to 46% of primary amino groups,

from 30 to 45% of secondary amino groups and

5 from 16 to 40% of tertiary amino groups.

In the preferred case, the polyamine has a number average molecular weight M_n of not more than 20,000 g/mol, particularly preferably not more than 10,000 g/mol and very particularly preferably not more than 5000 g/mol.

Lactams or ω -aminocarboxylic acids used as polyamide-forming monomers contain from 4 to 19, in particular 15 from 6 to 12, carbon atoms. Particular preference is given to using ϵ -caprolactam, ϵ -aminocaproic acid, caprylolactam, ω -aminocaprylic acid, lauro lactam, ω -aminododecanoic acid and/or ω -aminoundecanoic acid.

20 Examples of combinations of diamine and dicarboxylic acid are hexamethylenediamine/adipic acid, hexamethylenediamine/dodecanoic acid, octamethylene-
diamine/sebacic acid, decamethylenediamine/sebacic acid, decamethylenediamine/dodecanedioic acid,
25 dodecamethylenediamine/dodecanedioic acid and dodecamethylenediamine/2,6-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid. However, it is also possible to use all other combinations, for example decamethylenediamine/
dodecanedioic acid/terephthalic acid,
30 hexamethylenediamine/adipic acid/terephthalic acid, hexamethylenediamine/adipic acid/caprolactam, decamethylenediamine/dodecanedioic acid/ ω -aminoundecanoic acid, decamethylenediamine/dodecanedioic acid/lauro lactam, decamethylenediamine/
35 terephthalic acid/lauro lactam or dodecamethylene-diamine/2,6-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid/lauro lactam.

O.Z. 5704

- 10 -

In a preferred embodiment, the polyamine-polyamide copolymer is prepared using, in addition, an oligocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of from 0.015 to about 3 mol% of dicarboxylic acid and
5 from 0.01 to about 1.2 mol% of tricarboxylic acid, in each case based on the sum of the other polyamide-forming monomers. In this ratio, diamine and dicarboxylic acid in the equivalent combination of these monomers are each regarded individually. If a
10 dicarboxylic acid is used, preference is given to adding from 0.03 to 2.2 mol%, particularly preferably from 0.05 to 1.5 mol%, very particularly preferably from 0.1 to 1 mol% and in particular from 0.15 to 0.65 mol%; if a tricarboxylic acid is used, then
15 preference is given to adding from 0.02 to 0.9 mol%, particularly preferably from 0.025 to 0.6 mol%, very particularly preferably from 0.03 to 0.4 mol% and in particular from 0.04 to 0.25 mol%. The use of the oligocarboxylic acid significantly improves the solvent
20 and fuel resistance, in particular the hydrolysis and alcoholysis resistance.

As oligocarboxylic acid, it is possible to use any dicarboxylic or tricarboxylic acid having from 6 to 24
25 carbon atoms, for example adipic acid, suberic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dodecanedioic acid, isophthalic acid, 2,6-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, cyclohexane-1,4-dicarboxylic acid, trimesic acid and/or trimellitic acid.

30 In addition, aliphatic, alicyclic, aromatic, araliphatic and/or alkylaryl-substituted monocarboxylic acids having from 3 to 50 carbon atoms, e.g. lauric acid, unsaturated fatty acids, acrylic acid or benzoic
35 acid, can, if desired, be used as regulators. These regulators enable the concentration of amino groups to be reduced without altering the molecular structure. Furthermore, functional groups such as double or triple

O.Z. 5704

- 11 -

bonds, etc., can be introduced in this way. However, it is desirable for the polyamine-polyamide copolymer to have a substantial proportion of amino groups. The amino group concentration of the copolymer is preferably in the range from 150 to 1500 mmol/kg, particularly preferably in the range from 250 to 1300 mmol/kg and very particularly preferably in the range from 300 to 1100 mmol/kg. Here and in the following, the term amino groups refers not only to terminal amino groups but also to any secondary or tertiary amine functions present in the polyamine.

In the polyamine-polyamide copolymer, the composition of the polyamide part can vary within a very wide range since the compatibility with the polyamide of the layer I is obviously determined by other factors and is generally given.

The polyamine-polyamide copolymers can be prepared by various methods.

One possibility is to combine the polyamide-forming monomers and the polyamine and then carry out the polymerization or polycondensation. The oligocarboxylic acid can be added either at the beginning or during the reaction.

However, a preferred method is a two-stage process in which lactam cleavage and the prepolymerization may firstly be carried out in the presence of water (as an alternative, the corresponding ω -aminocarboxylic acids or diamines and dicarboxylic acids are used directly and prepolymerized), after which the polyamine is added in the second step, while any oligocarboxylic acid which is also used is introduced before, during or after the prepolymerization. The reaction mixture is then depressurized at temperatures of from 200 to 290°C

O.Z. 5704

- 12 -

and polycondensation is carried out in a stream of nitrogen or under reduced pressure.

5 A further preferred method is hydrolytic degradation of a polyamide to form a prepolymer and simultaneous or subsequent reaction with the polyamine. Preference is given to using polyamides in which the end group difference is approximately zero or in which any oligocarboxylic acid also used has already been
10 incorporated by polycondensation. However, the oligocarboxylic acid can also be added at the beginning of or during the degradation reaction.

15 These processes make it possible to prepare ultra highly branched polyamides having acid numbers of less than 40 mmol/kg, preferably less than 20 mmol/kg and particularly preferably less than 10 mmol/kg. A reaction time of from one to five hours at temperatures of from 200°C to 290°C is sufficient to achieve almost
20 complete conversion.

If desired, a reduced pressure phase of a number of hours can follow in a further process step. This has a duration of at least four hours, preferably at least
25 six hours and particularly preferably at least eight hours, at from 200 to 290°C. After an induction period of a number of hours, an increase in the melt viscosity is observed, which may be attributable to a reaction of amino end groups with one another taking place with
30 elimination of ammonia and chain formation. This further increases the molecular weight, which is advantageous for extrusion compositions in particular.

35 If the reaction is not to be carried out to completion in the melt, the polyamine-polyamide copolymer can also be after-condensed in the solid phase as described in the prior art.

O.Z. 5704

- 13 -

In a fourth preferred embodiment, the base molding composition of the bonding agent is prepared by reacting

- 5 a) from 30 to 70 parts by volume of the above-described polyamine-polyamide copolymer and
b) from 70 to 30 parts by volume of polyolefin

10 with not more than 10% by weight, preferably from 0.05 to 7% by weight, particularly preferably from 0.05 to 5% by weight, in particular from 0.1 to 2% by weight and very particularly preferably from 0.2 to 1% by weight, of a free-radical donor, based on the sum of the components a) and b),
15 for example in the melt under shear.

A fifth preferred embodiment is derived from the fourth preferred embodiment by replacing from 0.1 to 90% by weight of the polyamine-polyamide copolymer of the
20 component a) by a conventional polyamide as described above.

A sixth preferred embodiment is derived from the first preferred embodiment by replacing from 0.1 to 100% of
25 the polyamide of the component a) by the above-described polyamine-polyamide copolymer.

The multilayer composite of the invention may further comprise additional layers besides the layers I, II
30 and, if desired, III, provided that these additional layers adhere to the other layers. Possible additional layers are first and foremost layers having a good barrier action in respect of fuel components, water, alcohols, glycols or gases. These layers consist, in
35 particular, of a molding composition based on a thermoplastic polyester (e.g. polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene 2,6-naphthalate, polybutylene 2,6-naphthalate), a fluorinated polymer

O.Z. 5704

- 14 -

(e.g. polyvinylidene fluoride, ETFE or THV), an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (EVOH) or polyoxymethylene.

- 5 The molding compositions of layers I and II may further comprise up to 50% by weight of additives selected from among impact-toughening rubber and/or customary auxiliaries and additives.
- 10 Impact-toughening rubbers for polyamide molding compositions are prior art. They contain functional groups derived from unsaturated functional compounds which are either copolymerized into the main chain or are grafted onto the main chain. Most useful is EPM or
- 15 EPDM rubber onto which maleic anhydride has been grafted by a free-radical mechanism. Such rubbers can also be used together with an unfunctionalized polyolefin such as isotactic polypropylene, as described in EP-A-0 683 210.
- 20
- The molding compositions may also contain relatively small amounts of auxiliaries and additives which are necessary for obtaining particular properties. Examples are plasticizers, pigments or fillers such as carbon
- 25 black, titanium dioxide, zinc sulfide, silicates or carbonates, processing aids such as waxes, zinc stearate or calcium stearate, flame retardants such as magnesium hydroxide, aluminum hydroxide or melamine cyanurate, glass fibers, antioxidants, UV stabilizers
- 30 and additives which give the product antielectrostatic properties or electric conductivity, e.g. carbon fibers, graphite fibrils, fibers of stainless steel or conductive carbon black.
- 35 In one possible embodiment, the molding compositions contain from 1 to 25% by weight of plasticizers, particularly preferably from 2 to 20% by weight and very particularly preferably from 3 to 15% by weight.

O.Z. 5704

- 15 -

Plasticizers and their use in polyamides are known. A general review of plasticizers suitable for polyamides may be found in Gächter/Müller, Kunststoffadditive, C. Hanser Verlag, 2nd edition, p. 296.

Customary compounds suitable as plasticizers are, for example, esters of p-hydroxybenzoic acid having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms in the alcohol component or amides of arylsulfonic acids having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms in the amine component, preferably amides of benzenesulfonic acid.

Possible plasticizers include ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate, octyl p-hydroxybenzoate, i-hexadecyl p-hydroxybenzoate, N-n-octyltoluenesulfonamide, N-n-butylbenzenesulfonamide or N-2-ethylhexylbenzenesulfonamide.

The multilayer composite of the invention is, in one embodiment, a pipe, a filling port or a container, in particular for conveying or storing liquids or gases, for example in motor vehicles. Such a pipe can be straight or corrugated or have only some corrugated sections. Corrugated pipes are prior art (e.g. US 5 460 771), so that further details are superfluous. Important applications of such multilayer composites are use as fuel lines, as tank filling ports, as vapor lines (i.e. lines in which fuel vapors are conveyed, e.g. breather pipes), as filling station pipes, as coolant lines, as pipes in air conditioning units, as lines for clutch fluid, as air brake lines or as fuel containers.

The multilayer composite of the invention can also be in the form of a flat composite, for example as a film, for instance as a packaging film for foodstuffs.

O.Z. 5704

- 16 -

When the multilayer composite of the invention is used for conveying or storing combustible liquids, gases or dusts, e.g. fuel or fuel vapors, it is advisable to make one of the layers of the composite or an additional interior layer electrically conductive. This can be achieved by compounding with an electrically conductive additive by means of all methods of the prior art. As conductive additive, it is possible to use, for example, conductive carbon black, metal flakes, metal powder, metallized glass spheres, metallized glass fibers, metal fibers (for example of stainless steel), metallized whiskers, carbon fibers (including metallized carbon fibers), intrinsically conductive polymers, e.g. polyaniline, or graphite fibrils. Mixtures of various conductive additives can also be used.

The electrically conductive layer is preferably in direct contact with the medium to be conveyed or stored and has a surface resistance of not more than $10^9 \Omega/\text{square}$, preferably not more than $10^6 \Omega/\text{square}$. The method of determining the resistance of multilayer pipes is described in SAE J 2260 (November 1996, paragraph 7.9).

When the multilayer composite of the invention is configured as a hollow body or hollow profile (e.g. a pipe), this can be additionally sheathed with a further elastomer layer. Suitable sheathing materials include both crosslinking rubber compositions and thermoplastic elastomers. The sheathing can be applied to the pipe either with or without the use of an additional bonding agent, for example by extrusion via a crossflow head or by pushing a prefabricated elastomer hose over the finished, extruded multilayer pipe.

Examples of suitable elastomers are chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM), epichlorohydrin rubber (ECO),

O.Z. 5704

- 17 -

chlorinated polyethylene, acrylate rubber,
chlorosulfonated polyethylene, silicone rubber,
plasticized PVC, polyether ester amides or polyether
amides.

5

The multilayer composite can be manufactured in one or
more stages, for example by means of a single-stage
process using multicomponent injection molding,
coextrusion or coextrusion blow molding, or by means of
10 multistage processes as described, for example, in
US 5 554 425.

To increase the bursting strength, the composite can
further comprise a reinforcing textile layer as
15 described in the prior art.

The invention also provides the molding compositions of
the layer II described here. These can be used not only
for the multilayer composite of the invention but also
20 on their own for molded parts of any type.

Comparative example 1:

50 parts by volume of polypropylene and 50 parts by
volume of a PA12 having a relative solution viscosity
25 η_{rel} of 1.9 were mixed in the melt at 260°C in an
extruder, extruded and granulated.

Example 1:

50 parts by volume of polypropylene and 50 parts by
30 volume of a polyethylenimine-PA12 copolymer (prepared
from 3% by weight of LUPASOL® G100 from BASF AG and 97%
by weight of lauro lactam) were mixed in the melt at
260°C in an extruder, extruded and granulated.

35 Example 2:

50 parts by volume of polypropylene, 50 parts by volume
of the same polyethylenimine-PA12 copolymer as in
example 1 and 0.5% by weight of di-tert-butyl peroxide,

O.Z. 5704

- 18 -

based on the sum of the polymer components, were mixed in the melt at 260°C in an extruder, extruded and granulated.

In all three cases, the adhesion to polypropylene and PA12 was subsequently examined. The results are summarized in the following table.

Table 1: Adhesion to polypropylene (PP) and PA 12 (tape coextrusion)

10

	Adhesion rating PP	Adhesion rating PA12
Comparative example 1	4	0
Example 1	4	3
Example 2	4	4